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The Aruban Cunukero: From past to present



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Trump says he ended friendship with Epstein because he 'stole people that worked for me'

DARLENE SUPERVILLE

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump said Monday that he ended his friendship with Jeffrey Epstein and threw the now-disgraced financier out of his private club in Florida after Epstein betrayed him more than once by hiring people who had worked for him.

Trump did not say what the people's jobs were or where they worked, and the White House had no immediate comment. But with the fresh comments, Trump shed a little light on the reason why he has said he had ended the relationship with Epstein, though Steven Cheung, the White House communications director, recently said on X that, "The fact is that the President kicked him out of his club for being a creep." Epstein killed himself, authorities say, in a New York jail cell in 2019 as he awaited trial on sex trafficking charges. Trump and his top allies stoked conspiracy theories about Epstein's death before Trump returned to power and are now struggling to manage the fallout after the Justice Department said Epstein



A photograph of US President Donald Trump and Jeffrey Epstein is displayed on the side of a van in Aberdeen city centre, during U.S. President Donald Trump's five-day private trip to Scotland, Monday, July 28, 2025.

Associated Press

did in fact die by suicide and that it would not release additional documents about the case. The president and his allies, some of whom are now in the administration, had promised to release the files. The case has dogged Trump at home and abroad and even followed Vice President JD Vance during an appearance in

his home state of Ohio on Monday. A small group of protesters assembled outside a factory in Canton that Vance toured, holding signs that spelled out "JD Protects Pedophiles" and indicating that "GOP" stands for "Guardians Of Pedophiles." The Republican president spoke at his golf property in Turnberry, Scotland, as he sat with British Prime Minister

Keir Starmer after the leaders had met and were answering questions from U.S. and U.K. journalists. Asked to explain why the relationship had faltered, Trump said, "That's such old history, very easy to explain, but I don't want to waste your time by explaining it." He then explained, saying he stopped talking to Epstein after "he did something that was inappropriate."

ate." "He hired help and I said, 'Don't ever do that again,'" Trump said. "He stole people that worked for me. I said, 'Don't ever do that again.' He did it again, and I threw him out of the place, persona non grata." "I threw him out and that was it. I'm glad I did, if you want to know the truth," Trump added. Trump recently directed Attorney General Pam Bondi to seek the public release of sealed grand jury transcripts in the case. One federal judge has denied that request; a second judge has yet to rule. Vance on Monday visited the factory to promote Trump's tax cut and border bill, but also addressed the Epstein matter, saying the president wants "full transparency" in the case. "The president has been very clear. We're not shielding anything," Vance said in response to a reporter's question. "The president has directed the attorney general to release all credible information and, frankly, to go and find additional credible information related to the Jeffrey Epstein case." □

Texas county votes to release Uvalde school shooting records, ending legal battle

By JUAN A. LOZANO

Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — Lead-

ers of the county where 19 students and two teachers were killed in the 2022



Reggie Daniels pays his respects a memorial at Robb Elementary School, Thursday, June 9, 2022, in Uvalde, Texas, created to honor the victims killed in the recent school shooting.

Associated Press

shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, voted Monday to release records related to the massacre, ending a yearslong legal battle over disclosure of the information. Uvalde County commissioners voted 2-1 to release the records and to stop appealing a 2022 lawsuit that a group of media organizations, including The Associated Press, had filed seeking to make the information public. The decision by commissioners came a week after the Uvalde district's school board voted to release its records related to the deadly rampage, one of

the worst school shootings in U.S. history. The group of media organizations had sued both the county and the school district for the release of the records. County commissioners and the school district voted to release the records after a Texas appeals court on July 16 upheld a judge's ruling that had ordered the information be made public. Both the county and the school district have not said when the records will be released. "For me, the appellate court's decision to uphold (the judge's) ruling to hand over the video coverage was just confirmation for

me that ... what are we hiding?" Uvalde County Commissioner Ronald Garza told AP after Monday's meeting. "I'm very happy that we're gonna release the information." One county commissioner, Mariano Pargas Jr., who was the acting police chief on the day of the school shooting, abstained from the vote. Family members of the victims had also pushed to make the records public. Jesse Rizo, the uncle of 9-year-old victim Jackie Cazares, asked commissioners on Monday to release the records. Rizo is also a member of the school board. □

Vice President JD Vance hits the road again to sell the Republicans' big new tax law

By **JULIE CARR SMYTH** and **SEUNG MIN KIM**
Associated Press

CANTON, Ohio (AP) — Vice President JD Vance promoted Republicans' new sweeping tax and spending law at a steel plant in his home state on Monday, telling factory workers that the new law would allow them to keep more of their paycheck in their pockets. Vance spoke to a crowd of steel workers in neon green, orange, yellow and red hardhats and safety glasses gathered inside a rolling mill at Metallus Inc. in Canton, a competitive congressional district about 60 miles (100 kilometers) from Cleveland.

The trip marked Vance's second visit this month to a swing district in his role as lead cheerleader for President Donald Trump's signature law, an assortment of conservative priorities that Republicans dubbed the "One Big, Beautiful Bill." The vice president spoke at an industrial machine shop in West Pittston, Pennsylvania, shortly after the law was enacted.

Echoing themes from the earlier visit, Vance said Monday that American workers should be able to keep more of their hard-earned money and U.S. companies should be re-



Vice President JD Vance speaks at the Metallus plant, Monday, July 28, 2025, in Canton, Ohio.
Associated Press

warded when they grow. He highlighted the law's new tax deductions on overtime and its breaks on tipped income.

"For 40 years, while those great American factories closed their doors, we know what went right along with them. It was great American jobs, it was great American dignity and it was great American wages," he said. "We know that because we're making smarter decisions in Washington, D.C. We're going to reward all of you for the

great work that you're doing and we're going to reward American companies for investing in American companies, not foreign workers for a change."

Both Republicans and Democrats are scrambling to capitalize on the law ahead of next year's critical midterms. Democrats are zeroing in on its cuts to Medicaid and food stamps, which will leave nearly 12 million more people without health coverage and millions of others without food assistance, accord-

ing to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office. Vance was instrumental in the law's passage. He broke a tie in the Senate to send the bill to Trump's desk. He has decried Democrats including U.S. Rep. Emilia Sykes, whose district he was visiting for opposing the bill, which keeps in place tax cuts that otherwise would have expired this year and sets aside hundreds of billions of dollars for Trump's immigration agenda.

In response to criticism that

the bill will strip millions of Americans of Medicaid coverage, Vance said the administration is confident that the way the legislation is structured will not lead to reduced health care outcomes.

"If you want to protect Medicaid and President Trump certainly wants to then the best way to protect Medicaid is to ensure only the needy get access to Medicaid, not people who don't even have the legal right to be in our country to begin with," he said.

Vance characterized the administration's immigration crackdown as an effort to keep gangs trafficking deadly fentanyl out of the country.

He said the new law includes billions of dollars "to secure our border, to deport those criminal migrants and to allow the United States to take control of its country once again and kick those drug cartels the hell out of the United States of America."

Vance's decision to visit Sykes' district across the state from where he grew up in Middletown, Ohio comes as the National Republican Congressional Committee has named her narrowly split district as a top target this cycle. □

Fishing groups push to postpone protections for endangered right whale to 2035

By **PATRICK WHITTLE**
Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine (AP)

— A Maine congressman and several commercial fishing groups are getting



A North Atlantic right whale feeds on the surface of Cape Cod bay off the coast of Plymouth, Mass., on March 28, 2018.

Associated Press

behind a push to delay rules designed to protect a vanishing species of whale for 10 years.

The North Atlantic right whale numbers only about 370 and has declined over the last 15 years. They have been the subject of proposed federal fishing laws that are backed by conservation groups because the whales are threatened by lethal entanglement in commercial fishing gear. The federal government is in the midst of a pause on federal right whale rules until 2028. Democratic Rep. Jared Golden of Maine and a coalition of

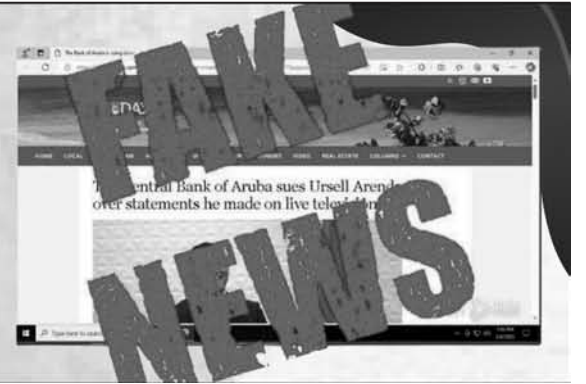
fishing organizations said in letters to congressional officials that they want to extend that moratorium out to 2035. Golden, who played a role in the initial moratorium, said extending the pause would give the government the time it needs to craft regulations that reflect science. He also said it would protect Maine's lifesblood lobster fishing industry, which is one of the fishing sectors that would have to comply with rules intended to protect right whales. "Maine's lobster fishery has most recently been valued at more than half a billion

dollars and that's just the value of the catch. It also supports tens of thousands of jobs. It is an iconic part of our state's economy, heritage and appeal to visitors," Golden said in a July 22 letter to a subcommittee of the House Natural Resources Committee. The extension of the moratorium was originally proposed by Alaska Republican Nick Begich. It's one of several changes to the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act proposed by Begich, who like Golden represents a state with a large commercial fishing industry. □

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Attorneys: 'Alligator Alcatraz' detainees held without charges, barred from legal access

By **MIKE SCHNEIDER**
Associated Press

Civil rights lawyers seeking a temporary restraining order against an immigration detention center in the Florida Everglades say that "Alligator Alcatraz" detainees have been barred from meeting attorneys, are being held without any charges and that a federal immigration court has canceled bond hearings. The immigration attorneys argued Monday during a virtual hearing that the detainees' constitutional rights were being violated and that 100 detainees already had been deported from "Alligator Alcatraz." Lawyers who have shown up for bond hearings for "Alligator Alcatraz" detainees have been told that the immigration court doesn't have jurisdiction over their clients, and the civil rights attorneys demanded that federal and state officials identify an immigration court that has jurisdiction over the detainees so it can start accept-



Workers sit alongside trailers as work progresses on a new migrant detention center dubbed "Alligator Alcatraz," at Dade-Collier Training and Transition facility in the Florida Everglades, Friday, July 4, 2025, in Ochopee, Fla.

Associated Press

ing petitions for bond.

"This is an emergency situation," Eunice Cho, an attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, said during the hearing in federal court in Miami. "Officers at 'Alligator Alcatraz'

are going around trying to force people to sign deportation orders without the ability to speak to counsel." But Nicholas Meros, an attorney representing Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, said the situation had evolved since

the civil rights groups' lawsuit was filed July 16. Video-conference rooms had been set up so detainees can talk to attorneys, and in-person meetings between detainees and attorneys had started.

"There have been a number of facts that have changed," Meros said during Monday's hearing. U.S. District Judge Rodolfo Ruiz, an appointee of President Donald Trump, didn't make an immediate ruling. He asked the civil rights attorneys to refile their complaint to consolidate their pleadings as a request for a preliminary injunction, and he set a briefing schedule that will end with an in-person court hearing on Aug. 18.

The judge warned that his role was to provide relief to any proven constitutional violations and said that "attempts to transform the court into the warden of 'Alligator Alcatraz' is not going to happen here." The judge also allowed the civil rights groups to argue for the release of any agreements between the federal and state governments showing who has authority over the detention center, a murky issue since it opened a month ago. □

2 customs officers plead guilty to allowing drugs to enter the U.S. through their inspection lanes



Pedestrians crossing from Mexico into the United States at the Otay Mesa Port of Entry wait in line in San Diego, Dec. 10, 2015. **Associated Press**

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Two Customs and Border Protection officers pleaded guilty this month to allowing vehicles filled with illegal drugs to enter the U.S. from Mexico, federal prosecutors said Monday.

The pair texted "a secret emoji-based code" to let Mexican traffickers know which inspection lanes they were manning at the Tecate and Otay Mesa border crossings, the U.S. Attorney's Office said in a statement. Prosecutors said when the drug-laden vehicles arrived, the officers would wave them through.

Officers Jesse Clark Garcia, 37, and Diego Bonillo, 30, each pleaded guilty to multiple charges, including conspiracy to import controlled substances such as cocaine, methamphetamine and heroin, the statement says.

As part of his plea deal, Bonillo admitted that he allowed at least 165 pounds (75 kilograms) of fentanyl to enter the country, prosecutors said.

The defendants "profited handsomely, funding both domestic and international trips as well as purchases of luxury items and attempts to purchase real estate in Mexico," the statement says.

Garcia's sentencing is scheduled for Sept. 26, and Bonillo will be sentenced Nov. 7. They could each face a maximum sentence of life in prison, prosecutors said. □

France calls on the EU to pressure Israel to come to the table on Palestinian two-state solution

By FARNOUSH AMIRI and
EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) —

France on Monday called on the European Union to pressure Israel to agree to a two-state solution with the Palestinians, the latest escalation from France as it seeks an end to the deadly Gaza war days after pledging to recognize Palestine as a state.

Jean-Noël Barrot, the French foreign minister, told reporters at the United Nations that while there is international consensus that the time for a political solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is now, world powers need to back up their words with actions.

"The European Commission, on behalf of the EU, has to express its expectations and show the means that we can incentivize the Israeli government to hear this appeal," he said.

Barrot spoke on the first day of a high-level U.N. meeting on a two-state solution to the decades-old Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which is being co-chaired by France and Saudi Arabia.



France's Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot addresses the United Nations General Assembly, Monday, July 28, 2025.

The conference, which was postponed from June and downgraded to the ministerial level, is taking place in New York as international condemnation of Israel's handling of the war in Gaza reaches a fever pitch. Both Israel and its closest ally, the United States, refused to participate in the meeting, which Barrot said is being attended by repre-

sentatives of 125 countries, including 50 ministers.

The aim of the conference, Barrot said, is "to reverse the trend of what is happening in the region mainly the erasure of the two-state solution, which has been for a long time the only solution that can bring peace and security in the region." He urged the European Commission to call on Is-

rael to lift a financial blockade on 2 billion euros he says the Israeli government owes the Palestinian Authority, stop settlement building in the West Bank, which threatens the territorial integrity of a future Palestinian state, and end the "militarized" food delivery system in Gaza by the Israeli-backed U.S. Gaza Humanitarian Foundation,

which has resulted in hundreds of killings.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has rejected the two-state solution on both nationalistic and security grounds.

Ahead of the meeting, French President Emmanuel Macron announced that France would recognize Palestine as a state at the annual gathering of world leaders at the U.N. General Assembly in September. The bold but mostly symbolic move is aimed at adding diplomatic pressure on Israel. France is now the biggest Western power and the only member of the Group of Seven major industrialized nations to recognize the state of Palestine, and the move could pave the way for other countries to do the same. More than 140 countries recognize a Palestinian state, including more than a dozen in Europe.

At the conference opening, Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammed Mustafa called for all countries who have not yet recognized Palestine as a state to do so "without delay." □

Associated Press

Yemen's Houthi rebels threaten to escalate attacks on ships linked to companies dealing with Israel

ATHENS, Greece (AP) —

Yemen's Houthi rebels said they will target merchant ships belonging to any company that does business with Israeli ports, regardless of nationality, as part of what they say is a new phase of their operations against Israel.

The Iran-backed Houthis launched a campaign targeting ships in response to the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip, saying they were doing so in solidarity with the Palestinians. Their attacks over the past two years have upended shipping in the Red Sea, through which about \$1 trillion of goods passes each year.

In an announcement late Sunday night, the Houthis said they had "decided to

escalate their military support operations and begin implementing the fourth phase of the naval blockade" against Israel.

They warned that they would target "all ships be-

longing to any company that deals with the ports of the Israeli enemy, regardless of the nationality of that company, and in any location within the reach of our armed forces." The



This photo released by the European Union's Operation Aspides shows fires burning aboard the oil tanker Sounion in the Red Sea on Sunday, Aug. 25, 2024.

Associated Press

vessels would be targeted regardless of their destination, they added.

The group said countries should pressure Israel to stop the war in Gaza and lift its blockade on the Palestinian territory "if they want to avoid this escalation." Earlier this month, the Houthis attacked and sank two Liberian-flagged, Greek-owned bulk carriers — the Magic Seas and the Eternity C. The attack on the latter killed four crew members and 11 others were taken captive. All 22 crew members of the Magic Seas were rescued before the ship sank.

The group released a video on Monday evening, showing the 11 captured Eternity C crew members. The footage, the first of its

kind since the Houthi attacks started, shows the crew being taken off the boat as well as interviews with the captives.

From November 2023 to December 2024, the Houthis targeted more than 100 ships with missiles and drones. The rebels stopped their attacks during a brief ceasefire in the war and later became the target of an intense, week-long airstrike campaign ordered by U.S. President Donald Trump. In May, the United States announced a deal with the Houthis to end the airstrikes in return for an end to shipping attacks, although the rebel group said the agreement did not include halting attacks on targets it believed were aligned with Israel. □

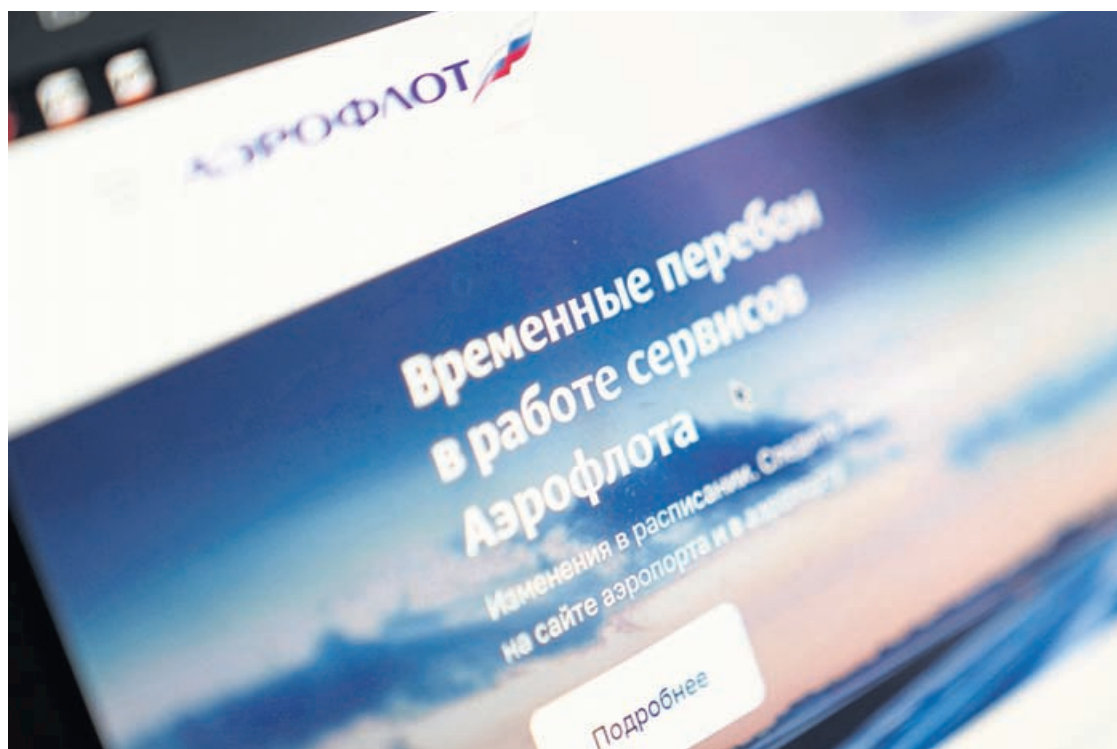
Cyberattack on Russian airline Aeroflot causes the cancellation of more than 100 flights

By The Associated Press

A cyberattack on Russian state-owned flagship carrier Aeroflot caused a mass outage to the company's computer systems on Monday, Russia's prosecutor's office said, forcing the airline to cancel more than 100 flights and delay others. Ukrainian hacker group Silent Crow and Belarusian hacker activist group the Belarus Cyber-Partisans, which opposes the rule of Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko, claimed responsibility for the cyberattack.

It is one of the most disruptive cyberattacks to hit Russia since the start of the country's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Previous attacks have targeted Russian government websites and other major Russian companies notably the state-owned Russian Railways but normal services have resumed within hours.

Images shared on social media showed hundreds of delayed passengers crowding Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport, where Aeroflot is based. The outage also disrupted flights operated



A view of the Aeroflot website alerting in Russian on temporary disruptions of airline's services, in Moscow, Russia, Monday, July 28, 2025. Monday, July 28, 2025.

Associated Press

by Aeroflot's subsidiaries, Rossiya and Pobeda.

While most of the flights affected were domestic, the disruption also led to cancellations for some international flights to Belarus, Armenia and Uzbekistan.

In a statement released early Monday, Aeroflot warned passengers that the company's information technology system was ex-

periencing unspecified difficulties and that disruption could follow.

Russia's Prosecutor's Office later confirmed that a cyberattack had caused the outage and that it had opened a criminal investigation. Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov called reports of the cyberattack "quite alarming," adding that "the hacker threat is

a threat that remains for all large companies providing services to the general public."

Silent Crow claimed it had accessed Aeroflot's corporate network for a year, copying customer and internal data, including audio recordings of phone calls, data from the company's own surveillance on employees and other inter-

cepted communications.

"All of these resources are now inaccessible or destroyed and restoring them will possibly require tens of millions of dollars. The damage is strategic," the channel purporting to be the Silent Crow group wrote on Telegram. There was no way to independently verify its claims.

The same channel also shared screenshots that appeared to show Aeroflot's internal IT systems, and insinuated that Silent Crow could begin sharing the data it had seized in the coming days.

"The personal data of all Russians who have ever flown with Aeroflot have now also gone on a trip albeit without luggage and to the same destination," it said.

The Belarus Cyber-Partisans told The Associated Press that they had hoped to "deliver a crushing blow." The group has previously claimed responsibility for a number of cyberattacks, and said in April 2024 that they had been able to infiltrate the network of Belarus' main KGB security agency. □

U.N. report reveals alarming rise in Africa's food insecurity despite global improvements

By RODNEY MUHUMUZA

Associated Press

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — Food insecurity is rising in many parts of Africa, with the number of people unable to afford a healthy

diet surpassing 1 billion some two-thirds of the continent's population in 2024, according to a United Nations report published Monday. The prevalence of moderate or severe food

insecurity in Africa is more than double the global average of 28%, whereas figures from Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and Oceania don't reach that mark, the report said. The annual report, produced by five U.N. agencies, analyzes trends in efforts to achieve the goal of zero hunger around the world by 2030. Those agencies include the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Food Program.

An estimated 8.2% of the global population may have faced hunger in 2024, down from 8.5% in 2023 and 8.7% in 2022, a positive trend that "contrasts with the steady rise in hunger in most subregions of Af-

rica" and in western Asia, or parts of the Middle East and South Asia, the report said.

The prevalence of undernourishment, a key measure of progress, surpassed 20% in Africa and rose to 12.7% in western Asia, it said.

The report is the latest to suggest that eliminating food insecurity universally remains a serious challenge. Africa remains the most vulnerable continent. According to the current projection, 512 million people in the world may be chronically undernourished in 2030, with nearly 60% of them to be found in Africa, the report said.

"We must urgently reverse this trajectory," said Máximo Torero, chief economist

with the FAO.

A major mark of distress is the number of Africans unable to afford a healthy diet.

While the global figure fell from 2.76 billion in 2019 to 2.6 billion in 2024, the number increased in Africa from 864 million to just over 1 billion during the same period.

That means the vast majority of Africans are unable to eat well on the continent of 1.5 billion people.

The U.N. warned in a report in October that conflicts, economic instability and climate shocks in addition to reduced funding for emergency food and agriculture assistance were driving alarming levels of acute food insecurity in 22 "hunger hot spots." □



Newly arrived Somalis, displaced by a drought, receive food distributions at makeshift camps in the Tabelaha area on the outskirts of Mogadishu, Somalia on March 30, 2017.

Associated Press

Food culture in Aruba

(Oranjestad) - Like many other cultures, an important aspect of the Aruban cultural identity is our connection to food and food traditions. The local food traditions consist of a melting pot of different cultural and religious eating habits and dishes.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner The routine of breakfast, lunch and dinner on the island is one that does not completely follow a European or American routine, despite the major influences from these parts of the world on our culture and way of living. When it comes to the three important meals of the day, most of the Aruban population follows a Latin-American influenced routine.

Breakfast

Breakfast in Aruba is quite simple: a cup of coffee or tea, some bread, and sometimes an egg. Sometimes, due to the need of a quick "to-go" breakfast, you may also find many snack trucks and cafes that sell sandwiches, pastechis



(meat pie), arepas and empanadas early in the morning.

Main Meal

The main meal is typically eaten in most households



around noon or in the afternoon. This can consist of meat, fish, and chicken—stewed or fried—with funchi (polenta) or rice with stewed vegetables. Often, fried or boiled plantain or pan bati (Aruban pancake) is included. Stews are a staple in Aruban cuisine and can be largely influenced by Latin-American and Latin/Afro-Caribbean Stews. Some of the more

unique stews and soups from the ABC Islands* include sopi di bonchi cora (red kidney bean soup with pig tail), sopi mondongo (tripe soup), carni stoba (beef stew), comcomber stoba (West Indian gherkin stew) and much more.

Dinner Time

Dinner time can vary significantly from household to household. Unlike the U.S. or in Europe, dinner time typically does not consist of a whole (warm) meal. Instead, the evening "meal" can typically consist of something lighter, like a sandwich, though it is not uncommon to see leftovers from the main meal reheated and eaten again. Tea and coffee are often also served with the evening snack.

(Religious) Holidays

Christmas is probably the biggest global holiday, and every culture has its own spin on what their Christmas cuisine entails. In Aruba, our Christmas cuisine is again largely based on Latin-American influences, most



notably from Venezuela. Ayacas and the famous pan di ham* are two crucial holiday dishes, along with stuffed turkey, roasted glazed ham topped with pineapples, arroz con pollo (rice and chicken) and potato salad, among other items. Traditional drinks include ponche crema (Aruban eggnog), chuculati pinda (hot chocolate with peanut butter), and home-made fruit punch. Desserts include, bolo di pistachio (pistachio cake), bolo di cashupete (cashew cake), quesillo (flan), bolo preto (dark fruit cake), drigidek (gingerbread), pan boyo (bread cake) and more.

Snacks and tasty delights

Besides meals and dishes that are eaten on the dinner table, Aruba also has a food tradition that includes snacks and other tasty delights that you may easily find around the island.



These include, Saco*, basket, pastechi, kroket, deditos, Johnny cake and more. These snacks are usually sold at local snack trucks and cafes, often located on the side of the road. In the area of Tanki Leendert and Tanki flip, for example, there are many of these trucks parked on the side of the road and often open until late at night—offering tasty and filling snacks post night-life fun. □

*ABC Islands: Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao

*Pan di ham: Derived from the Venezuelan Pan de Jamon (rolled up bread with ham, raisins and olives)

*Saco: Saco literally means "bag". Saco contains fried potatoes, plantains, chicken (and ribs) and a Johnny cake, served in a paper bag.

Source: Voeding, voedingsgewoonten en gerechten op Aruba (Nutrition, Food Traditions and Dishes on Aruba) by Biblioteca Nacional Aruba

Create museum memories

ORANJESTAD — Museums are an integral part of conserving and honoring cultures, and Aruba is no exception. Our Island has a wide selection of various museums for our locals and visitors to see. Take this opportunity to learn about our island and experience a different day beyond the beach. Let us introduce to you these museums.

Museum of Industry Aruba

The Museum of Industry is located in San Nicolas—better known as the art capital of Aruba. This museum exhibits the industrial history of gold, aloe, phosphate, oil and tourism through elaborated displays and multimedia installations.

The Museum of Industry is situated in the Water Tower in San Nicolas and narrates Aruba's industrial history, which began in the 19th century. The Water Tower was built in 1939 and consists of three sections: the

substructure, the high-rising vertical shaft, and the tank at the top. The Water Tower was purchased by the Monuments Fund in 2003 so it can be restored and preserved as one of Aruba's monuments. The Museum of Industry is part of Aruba Museum Foundation (Fundacion Museo Aruban), which is a foundation set to maintain, preserve, and protect the Aruban cultural sector, history, and nature. The museum of Industry is open daily from 9 am till 6 pm.

For more information, check out their Facebook page Museum of Industry Aruba.

Archaeological Museum of Aruba

The Archaeological Museum of Aruba is located at Schelpstraat 42 in downtown Oranjestad. The renovated historic Ecury complex in the area has been transformed from a family

home to a modern museum that preserves Aruba's Amerindian cultural heritage. This 21st century museum is especially designed to preserve valuable artifacts dating back to the Pre-Ceramic period of 2500 BC.

In the late 1980's, AMA identified its need for an adequate housing for its collection and activities. After studying various options, a project proposal was drawn up, including the acquisition and restoration of historical buildings in downtown Oranjestad.

These historical buildings were formerly the property of the Ecury family. The "Ecury Complex", is a cluster of single and two-story historic buildings, mainly Dutch colonial architecture from the late 19th and 20th century on a plot of approximately 1.700 m2.

In 1997, the Aruban Govern-

ment bought the complex for the National Archaeological Museum project. In 2004, a financial agreement was signed with the European Development Fund and in 2006, restoration and construction work began on the monumental buildings and the soon-to-be exhibition space. In December 2007, the key to the complex was delivered and the museum's employees moved to the new location. The final design for the exhibit was completed in November 2007 and the permanent exhibit, financed by the Aruban Government and the Union of Cultural Organizations (UNOCA), opened in July 2009.

At the new location, the National Archaeological Museum Aruba disposes of approximately 500 m2 for its permanent exhibit. This exhibit conveys information on the origin and culture of

the first inhabitants of the island through archaeological objects and modern exhibition techniques. The new permanent exhibit gives the visitor an insight into the cultures that inhabited the island in Pre-Historical and Early Historical times. The museum also hosts attractive public programs, including lectures, educational projects, temporary exhibits and workshops.

The museum is open daily from 9:30 am till 4:30 pm. For more information check out the Facebook page Museo Arqueologico Nacional Aruba. □



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Aruba's underwater wonderland

ORANJESTAD - Exploring the underwater wonders is something you should definitely do during your stay in Aruba. The underwater world has everything to offer that makes a snorkel trip so exceptional; an impressive, colorful sea life with exotic fishes, turtles and beautiful coral reef. The historic shipwrecks, located on the Aruban seabed are also worth a visit. Aruba is known for its white beaches and blue oceans, which means there are many fascinating under water spots, where you can take your snorkeling gear and we selected the top spots for you.

Tres Trapi

Tres Trapi means tree steps in Papiamentu, Papiamentu is together with Dutch the official language spoken on Aruba. The beach is called Tres Trapi because it is accessible by the tree steps carved into the rocks. Tres Trapi is a small rocky beach, located on the north-western side of the island, approximately 5 to 10 minute drive from Palm Beach. From the unique steps you can easily walk over the beach into the clear and turquoise blue ocean. While snorkeling you will encounter all kind of tropical fishes and sea stars. The kind of starfish



you will find in the Aruban waters is the red cushion sea star. This is a starfish that is commonly found in the shallow waters of the Caribbean sea and if you are lucky during your snorkeling visit to Tres Trapi, you may come across one of the green sea turtles. Respect the animal, keep your distance and enjoy the view. Also remember; it is a once in a life time experience.

Antilla shipwreck

Antilla is a 400-foot-long ship, built in 1939 in Hamburg, Germany. Antilla came to Aruba, because it had to find a neutral port. When Germany invaded the Netherlands on May 10, 1940, the crew decided to let their own ship sink, to prevent it from falling into the hands of the Dutch

Navy. Antilla lies on its portside in Malmok bay, and the sunken world war two ship is now one of Aruba's most popular snorkeling and dive spots. However, the ship wreck can only be reached by boat. The ship is visible from the surface and during your snorkeling trip you be surrounded by hundreds of tropical fishes, but the ship wreck alone is already impressive enough.

Baby Beach

Baby beach; a white beach, with a crystal blue ocean. The beach is located on the southern part of the island. On the way to the famous beach, you will drive through the old capital of Aruba, San Nicolas. The old Aruban culture can be still felt and experienced here, so do not



hesitate to get out of your car and walk around for a while. Baby beach is a child friendly beach, since it is shallow and the water has a pleasant temperature. The name therefore fits well with the beach. Baby beach is an excellent beach for snorkeling, especially if you want to go with small children, because the water remains shallow and there are still many underwater wonders to see. In the ocean there is an area marked until where it is recommended to snorkel and on the beach you will find different facilities. It is a perfect beach to spend your day snorkeling and relaxing.

Mangel Halto

Mangel Halto beach is lo-

cated in Savaneta, on the southern-west part of the island. The beach is different from the other beaches in Aruba; it is beach full of mangroves. You reach the beach by a bridge through the mangroves and then you will have several entrances to the sea. There are diverse spots where you can enjoy a perfect beach day, wooden stairs made to enter the water and a dock to sit on and enjoy the view. Mangel Halto is also worth a visit for the snorkeling experience. Inside the bay, the water is clear and you find many colorful fish. Outside the bay is a bit more challenging for beginners because of the wind and the waves, but the coral is alive and it is just like snorkel heaven. □



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Aruba to me

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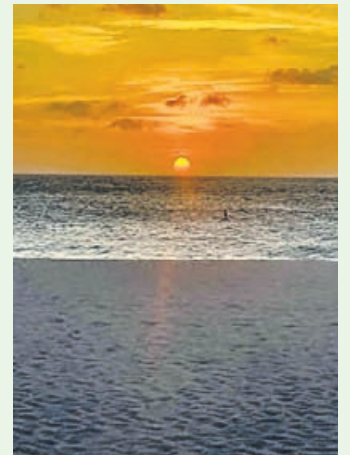
Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com

and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for

promotional purposes without compensation. Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again. For today we received a lovely message from Elizabeth Griffin from Long Branch, NJ, USA.

She wrote to us saying: "Aruba never disappoints me...glorious sunsets, gorgeous beaches, fantastic food and friendly people! I am never ready to leave my second home."

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! □



Feeling parched? Grab refreshment by the side of the road!



(Oranjestad)—Touring the island in the blistering heat can leave one feeling rather thirsty and looking to cool off. Luckily there are a few stands along the roads of Aruba that can offer you just what you need: a nice, refreshing beverage!

These "coconut stands" can be found at several locations on the island, where you can cool off with delicious smoothies, drinks, snacks, and of course, fresh coconuts! Perfect during family outings around the island, these stands can be found in the following locations:

- Near the red Anchor in San Nicolas

- On the Linear Park in Oranjestad (in front of airport runway)
- At the California Light House hill
- Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruin
- Bushiribana Beach (Near the Ling & Song Supermarket) □

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Planning on snorkeling? Get to know our Candelchi!



(Oranjestad)—If you're ever planning on snorkeling during your vacation on Aruba, you may spot fish that you can't recognize. One of these may be the "Candelchi" (Squirrelfish), a common, yet shy fish that swims all year long in the waters of Aruba.

Let's talk about the names of fish. Do you know your fish? The Department of Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries, known as Santa Rosa, offers this informative article that illustrate some fish and their names in Papiamentu.

Candelchi, Squirrelfish, *Holocentrus adscensionis*: Candelchi actually refers to the entire squirrelfish family or, as some say, when we say candelchi, we mean several different species but without distinguishing them by species. In this picture, we are showing the most common one in our waters, which is called squirrelfish in English or scientifically known as *Holocentrus adscensionis*.

Under candelchi, we in Aruba generally refer to all the different species of squirrelfish. They all look alike and it's really difficult to distinguish between



them.

The squirrelfish family is distinguished by the following characteristics. They are heart-shaped with pink or red hues and often show heart-shaped streaks between the scales along the body. They have hard fins and are always armed. Over at our sister island Curaçao, they are called "bari di clabo" (nail barrel)

for that reason.

In our waters, there are 7 to 8 types or species present and they are sometimes caught and seen occasionally. They can be distinguished by different marks such as color on the dorsal spine or marks on the body.

In Aruba: Candelchi are found on

reefs or areas with structure in the water where they can hide. Although they prefer to hunt for food at night, they are also active during the day. They are edible and delicious when prepared dry and crispy with lime. It is particularly challenging to scale the fish, which is why it is not one of the favorites among fishermen. They often live in groups. □

Place names in San Nicolas and their origins

(Oranjestad)--If you're ever taking a tour of Aruba, San Nicolas would definitely be on your itinerary. From relaxing on the white, sandy beaches of Baby and Roger's Beach, to exploring the prehistoric caves of Quadirikiri and Fontein, you are taking in a full view of what San Nicolas has to offer. But did you know that you are also passing through areas whose names have historical origins? Here are a few place names in San Nicolas and their origin story.

Sero Colorado

On your way to Baby or Roger's Beach, you'll pass by the famous Red Anchor at what was once the entrance to the Colony residential community and be greeted with red soiled hills by the coast. This is Sero Colorado. Named after the 30-meter, deep red, limestone hill, "Sero Colorado" translates to

"Colored Hill". Sero Colorado has deep historical ties with the once-thriving phosphate industry in the area. Matter of fact, there are still underground shafts and passages deep in Sero Colorado from the time of phosphate mining. In 1958, the refinery at the time, Lago, adopted this name for the residential section of its employees.

Vader Piet

Another well visited area, Vader Piet is located in the Arikok National Park. Recognizable sites within this area includes the Wind Mills and the Quadirikiri Cave. The origin of this name is part historical and speculation, as there are slight deviations from what actually happened.

In 1829, Pieter Lampe was a planter and the person responsible for governing this remote area. As the story goes, Pieter was

well known and beloved for his kindness and good treatment of his employees, and was therefore also called Vader Piet (Father Piet). However, he was tragically murdered—some speculate at the hands of a slave. For his work and good heart, the area was named after him.

San Nicolas

Of course we can't forget San Nicolas itself. Much like Vader Piet, the origin

of the name San Nicolas has so far two different accounts. In the literal sense, "San Nicolas" translates to "Saint Nicolas", leading many to believe that this district was named after a Spanish saint. Though one account does support this with the theory that the district was named after the saint by Spanish colonizers, the other account is much less divine, but does refer to an influential figure in the area.

Nicolaas van der Biest was a successful landowner during the time of the phosphate boom in late 19th century Aruba. Back then, landowners (most, if not all of them men) were referred to as "Shon" by their subordinates. So, the district was originally named after Shon Nicolaas. Over time, the name evolved into what is now San Nicolas. □

Source: "Aruba: Short History" by Dr. J. Hartog.



The Aruban Cunukero

From past to present

(Oranjestad)—Aruba's culture consists of rich historical traditions that make up the Aruban identity and lifestyle. However, the life of the cunukero (farmer) is perhaps the most important aspect of our culture, in a sense representing to locals the true essence of the Aruban.

Historically, cunucus (farms) played a huge role in the early social and economic development of Aruba, and its relevance dates back to the early days of the colonization era. Upon being discovered by Spanish conquistadors in the late 15th century, Aruba was used primarily as a ranch, housing horses and cattle brought from Europe. During the Dutch colonization era where the West Indian Company (WIC) dominated the economic sphere on the island, using the land to set up cattle farms and ranches remained popular.

Anthropologist Sidney Mintz divided Caribbean farmers back in four categories:

1. The "squatters", who were mostly comprised of illegal and poor colonists, runaway slaves and deserters who took advantage of the Spanish's weak su-

pervision on Caribbean islands like Cuba and the DR;

2. Then you have "Early Yeomen", who were legal farmers who came to the west under contract. Once their contract expired, they were given a plot of land for independent use;
3. Proto-Peasants were plantation slaves who were allowed to have a small piece of land to grow food for their own consumption. This was to curb the cost of living on the plantations;
4. Lastly you have the "Runaway Peasantries", usually comprised of runaway slaves who acquired farming tools and cattle through stealing or through secret exchanges with other slaves from different plantations.

However, the Aruban cunukeros back then are hard to place, and their history may explain why.

From 1636 (beginning of Dutch colonization era) to before the oil industry in 1924, Aruba's population consisted of mostly farmers. These farmers were mostly indigenous and were characterized as peasants. They weren't allowed to participate in trading, but instead



the government gave these farmers official permission to keep livestock, and the obligations once placed on them were officially discarded.

Because of the dry climate in Aruba, growing food for commercial purposes was not popular. The focus was mainly on cattle herding and taking care of livestock. However, livestock need food to survive, and when Aruba experienced its duper dry climate, many farmers would see a big loss in their livestock, and hence profit.

Although the WIC at one point did try to come up with an initiative to get more people to have land on the island, the climate never really allowed real profit from farming. Because of the climate, Aruban farmers in general could not keep large quantities of livestock. At a certain point toward the end of the 18th century, the climate got so bad that many farmers decided to leave the island for a while.

As much as these farmers were given to opportunity to live "free" with a plot of land, their exclusion from the trading and business world, as well as being deprived the chance to become real property and cattle owners, made them a unique group among Caribbean farmers at the time.

The WIC placed a lot of restrictions on these indigenous farmers—a method to safeguard their cattle deposit on the island. The indigenous farmers were mostly granted less than 7 acres of land. Those who owned bigger land were either once affiliated with the WIC or were colonists who settled on the island to try their luck at farming. In 1767, there were about 120 houses/cunucus on the island.

These Aruban farmers were also limited to the amount of cattle they could keep. Most kept goats as cattle, as only those who were affiliated with the WIC could keep (more) sheep. Of the 76 goat herders on the island, about 45 of them had less than 30 goats, and only 7 of them had more than 60 goats.

It wasn't until the WIC was defunct in late 18th century that these farmers were able to obtain more freedom as cunukeros. After 1824,

For this reason, the farming economy on the island remained small. As the years went by and people noticed that these farms could not really produce any sustainable profit, farmers kept their small piece of land just to live off of. This is why the Aruban cunukeros only played a very tiny role into the plantation economy.

In modern Aruba, cunucus and cunukeros still exist on the island, fortunately with more freedom and more opportunity to tap into the agricultural market. These farmers usually sell their produce on a smaller scale, like during farmers' market events and other types of (holiday) events. □

Source: "Arubaans Akkoord: Opstellen over Aruba van voor de komst van de olieindustrie (Aruban Accord: Essays on Aruba Before the Arrival of the Oil Industry)" by Alofs, Luc; Rutgers, Wim; Coomans, Henny E. red.



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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Tag sale proviso
5 Clark's colleague

- 9 Low cards in pinochle

- 11 Deed holder

- 13 Reach

- 14 Extreme

- 15 Try out

- 16 Licoricey flavoring

- 18 Part of a baseball count

- 20 Gene messenger

- 21 Good feature

- 22 Slightly open

- 23 Break off

- 24 Bill word

- 25 Accord

- 27 Flashlight, in Britain

- 29 Museum stuff

- 30 Leaves

- 32 Like dividends

- 34 Sort

- 35 In the area

- 36 "—, All Ye Faithful"

- 38 Subsequently

- 39 Freshen

- 40 Invites
41 Superlative suffixes

DOWN

- 1 Black cattle breed

- 2 Midday break

- 3 Sights of some lights

- 4 Match part

- 5 Writer L'Amour

- 6 Night fliers

- 7 "Oh!" and "yo!"

- 8 Venus's sister

- 10 Drenched

- 12 Air traffic aid

- 17 Pay stub line

- 19 Was imagined

- 22 Mystique

- 24 Hospital worker

- 25 Half of a '60s rock group

- 26 Mideast peninsula

- 27 Letter after sigma

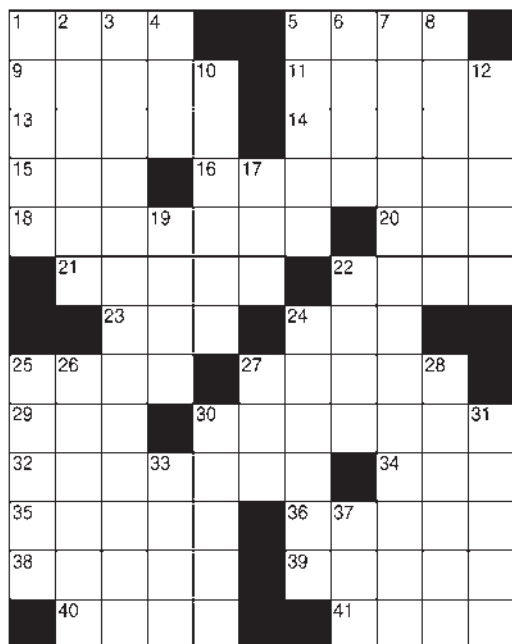
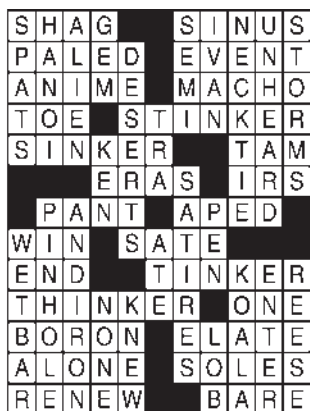
- 28 Tackle's topper

- 30 Campaign goal

- 31 Distorts

- 33 Pond paddler

- 37 Semi-circular shape



8-4

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

8-4 CRYPTOQUOTE

GLZIRDQ LZ B ZXI RO PLXZ

I G B I X E X D Q R U X G B Z

B K D X X C W Y R U . — U B Y R P X R U

H R U B Y B D I X

Cryptoquote: WITHOUT ICE CREAM, THERE WOULD BE DARKNESS AND CHAOS. — DON KARDONG

Cruise ship Schedule: July 17 - 30 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
THU	17	CARNIVAL CELEBRATION	08.00	17.00	C	1
SUN	20	FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	22	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1
WED	23	CELEBRITY REFLECTION	07.00	16.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1
SUN	27	FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
WED	30	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.



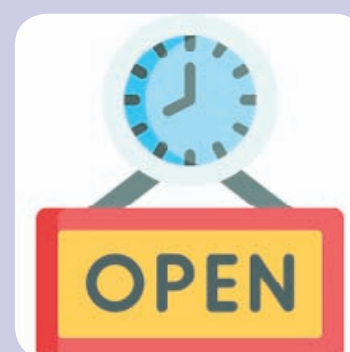
Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 8 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku

		7			8	1		9
		3	9	4		6		2
9	6			5	1		4	8
3				1	2		6	4
	8		4		5			1
	2		8					
				8				5
5	4			7		2	8	6
2		8	5		6			

Difficulty: ★★

7/29

Answer to previous puzzle

1	6	4	5	7	3	8	9	2
2	5	3	8	4	9	1	6	7
7	8	9	1	2	6	3	4	5
4	1	2	6	8	7	5	3	9
5	3	7	9	1	2	6	8	4
6	9	8	4	3	5	7	2	1
9	2	6	3	5	1	4	7	8
8	7	1	2	6	4	9	5	3
3	4	5	7	9	8	2	1	6

Difficulty: ★

7/28



An elderly couple walks down a hallway in Easton, Pa., on Nov. 6, 2015.

Associated Press

To stay sharper while aging, get active, challenge your brain, and eat healthy

By **LAURAN NEERGAARD**
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's official: Older Americans worried about cognitive decline can stay sharper for longer by exercising both their bodies and their brains and eating healthi-

er. That's according to initial results released Monday from a rigorous U.S. study of lifestyle changes in seniors at risk of developing dementia. People following a combination of healthier habits slowed typical age-related cognitive decline achieving scores on brain tests as if they were a year or two younger, researchers reported in JAMA and at the Alzheimer's Association International Conference.

It's not too late to get started study participants were in their 60s and 70s and it doesn't require becoming a pickleball champ or swearing off ice cream.

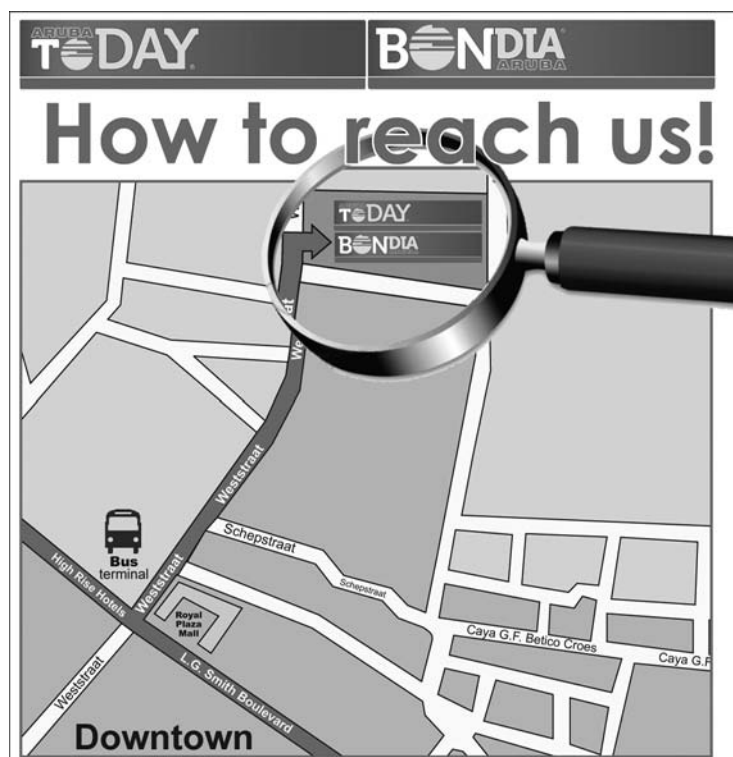
"It was the first time I felt like I was doing something proactive to protect my brain," said Phyllis Jones, 66, of Aurora, Illinois, who joined the study after caring for her mother with dementia and struggling with her own health problems. It's too soon to know if stalling age-related decline also could reduce the risk of later Alzheimer's or oth-

er forms of dementia. But Jones and other study participants underwent brain scans and blood tests that researchers now are analyzing for clues such as whether people also saw a reduction in Alzheimer's-related protein buildup.

"We're all on a cognitive aging clock and anything we can do to slow that clock down, to me, that is a significant benefit," said Laura Baker of Wake Forest University School of Medicine, who led the study. What's good for the heart is good for the brain. Doctors have long encouraged physical activity and a healthy diet for brain

fitness. Those steps fight high blood pressure and cholesterol, heart disease and diabetes, factors that increase the risk of dementia.

But until now the strongest evidence that specific lifestyle changes later in life could improve how people perform on brain tests came from a study in Finland. Would it work for a more sedentary and culturally diverse U.S. population? With funding from the Alzheimer's Association and the National Institute on Aging, Baker's team tested the strategy for two years in 2,100 adults ages 60 to 79. □



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ARUBA TODAY NEWS

Why are data nerds racing to save U.S. government statistics?

By **MIKE SCHNEIDER**
Associated Press

The data nerds are fighting back.

After watching data sets be altered or disappear from U.S. government websites in unprecedented ways after President Donald Trump began his second term, an army of outside statisticians, demographers and computer scientists have joined forces to capture, preserve and share data sets, sometimes clandestinely.

Their goal is to make sure they are available in the future, believing that democracy suffers when policy-makers don't have reliable data and that national statistics should be above partisan politics.

"There are such smart, passionate people who care deeply about not only the Census Bureau, but all the statistical agencies, and ensuring the integrity of the statistical system. And that gives me hope, even during these challenging times," Mary Jo Mitchell, director of government and public affairs for the research nonprofit the Population Association of America, said this week during an online public data-users conference. The threats to the U.S. data infrastructure since January have come not only from the disappearance or modification of data related to gender, sexual



Commuters walk along a corridor in the World Trade Center, Monday, Nov. 18, 2019 in New York. Associated Press

orientation, health, climate change and diversity, among other topics, but also from job cuts of workers and contractors who had been guardians of restricted-access data at statistical agencies, the data experts said.

"There are trillions of bytes of data files, and I can't even imagine how many public dollars were spent to collect those data. ... But right now, they're sitting someplace that is inaccessible because there are no staff to appropriately manage those data," Jennifer Park, a study director for the Committee on National Statistics, National Acade-

mies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, said during the conference hosted by the Association of Public Data Users (APDU).

'Gender' switched to 'sex' In February, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's official public portal for health data, data.cdc.gov, was taken down entirely but subsequently went back up. Around the same time, when a query was made to access certain public data from the U.S. Census Bureau's most comprehensive survey of American life, users for several days got a response that said the area was "unavailable due to mainte-

nance" before access was restored.

Researchers Janet Freilich and Aaron Kesselheim examined 232 federal public health data sets that had been modified in the first quarter of this year and found that almost half had been "substantially altered," with the majority having the word "gender" switched to "sex," they wrote this month in The Lancet medical journal.

One of the most difficult tasks has been figuring out what's been changed since many of the alterations weren't recorded in documentation.

Beth Jarosz, senior program

director at the Population Reference Bureau, thought she was in good shape since she had previously downloaded data she needed from the National Survey of Children's Health for a February conference where she was speaking, even though the data had become unavailable. But then she realized she had failed to download the questionnaire and later discovered that a question about discrimination based on gender or sexual identity had been removed.

"It's the one thing my team didn't have," Jarosz said at this week's APDU conference. "And they edited the questionnaire document, which should have been a historical record."

Among the groups that have formed this year to collect and preserve the federal data are dataindex.us, which monitors changes to federal data sets; the University of Chicago Library's Data Mirror website, which backs up and hosts at-risk data sets; the Data Rescue Project, which serves as a clearinghouse for data rescue-related efforts; and the Federal Data Forum, which shares information about what federal statistics have gone missing or been modified a job also being done by the American Statistical Association. □

Tea, an app for women to safely talk about men they date, has been breached, user IDs exposed

By **BARBARA ORTUTAY**
AP Technology Writer

Tea, an app designed to

let women safely discuss men they date has been breached, with thousands



A person uses a smartphone in Chicago, Sept. 16, 2017. Associated Press

of selfies and photo IDs of users exposed, the company confirmed on Friday.

Tea said that about 72,000 images were leaked online, including 13,000 images of selfies or selfies featuring a photo identification that users submitted during account verification. Another 59,000 images publicly viewable in the app from posts, comments and direct messages were also accessed without authorization, according to a Tea spokesperson. No email addresses or phone numbers were accessed, the company said, and the breach only affects users who

signed up before February 2024. "Tea has engaged third-party cybersecurity experts and are working around the clock to secure its systems," the company said. "At this time, there is no evidence to suggest that additional user data was affected. Protecting tea users' privacy and data is their highest priority." Tea presents itself as a safe way for women to anonymously vet men they might connect with on dating apps such as Tinder or Bumble ensuring that your date is "safe, not a catfish, and not in a relationship."

"Tea is a must-have app,

helping women avoid red flags before the first date with dating advice, and showing them who's really behind the profile of the person they're dating," reads Tea's app store description.

404 Media, which earlier reported the breach, said it was 4Chan users who discovered an exposed database that "allowed anyone to access the material" from Tea. "While reporting this story, a URL the 4chan user posted included a voluminous list of specific attachments associated with the Tea app. 404 Media saw this list of files. □

Baseball's biggest spenders are stumbling, with the Dodgers, Mets and Yankees beset by injuries

By **RONALD BLUM**
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball's biggest spenders are stumbling, slowed by injuries and scrambling to patch rosters with help for battered bullpens and other positions ahead of Thursday's trade deadline.

Opening the season with a top payroll of \$326 million, the New York Mets have a 1 1/2-game NL East lead but are 17-20 since mid-June. Just \$200,000 behind them in spending, according to Major League Baseball's figures, the World Series champion Los Angeles Dodgers are four games ahead in the NL West but are 5-13 since July 3.

Third at \$294 million, the defending AL champion New York Yankees blew a seven-game division lead and trail AL East-leading Toronto by 5 1/2 games after a 22-28 skid that started in late May.

"It is in a lot of ways a game of survival," New York Yankees manager Aaron Boone said.

While all three are in play-offs positions, they have not had the seasons they hoped for.

All three teams were con-



New York Yankees manager Aaron Boone reacts during the third inning of a baseball game against the Atlanta Braves, Friday, July 18, 2025, in Atlanta.

sidered "winners" of the offseason. The Mets lured Juan Soto from the Yankees for a record \$765 million, 15-year contract. The Dodgers added prized pitcher Roki Sasaki and left-hander Blake Snell along with reliever Tanner Scott, outfielder Michael Conforto and second baseman Hye-seong Kim. The Yankees brought in Max Fried, Cody

Bellinger, Paul Goldschmidt and Devin Williams.

Projected lineups and the ones in box scores have been markedly different.

The Mets have used 13 starting pitchers, losing Kodai Senga, Sean Manaea, Frankie Montas, Tylor Megill and Griffin Canning for significant stretches.

"We're not going to sit here and feel sorry for ourselves.

Nobody will," manager Carlos Mendoza said. "We're facing a lot of adversity, but every team goes through it."

Los Angeles had 14 pitchers on the injured list in early June and has used 16 different starters.

"It was very important to have the depth. We went through a lot last year and I didn't think that we would

kind of match what we did last year, but sure enough we have," Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said. "To kind of manage it hasn't been easy, but we're doing it."

The Yankees lost ace Gerrit Cole and Clarke Schmidt to torn UCLs and Luis Gil to a lat strain. They are now without two-time AL MVP Aaron Judge for at least 10 days because of a flexor injury.

Los Angeles leads the major leagues with 1,495 player days on the IL, the Mets are fifth at 1,095 and the Yankees sixth at 1,022. Philadelphia, 1 1/2 games back of the Mets in the NL East, has the fewest IL days at 214.

In addition to relievers, the Mets could use a center fielder and an upgrade at third. The Yankees added infielders Ryan McMahon and Amed Rosario, boosting payroll and tax by \$11.56 million.

Modern MLB is a sport for the wealthy. Just two of the current division leaders were not among the top seven spenders as of opening day: Detroit (19th at \$148 million) and the Chicago Cubs (14th at \$195 million). □

Associated Press

Guards' All-Star Emmanuel Clase placed on paid leave as part of MLB sports betting investigation

By **JAY COHEN**
AP Baseball Writer

Cleveland Guardians closer Emmanuel Clase has been placed on non-disciplinary paid leave as part of a Major League Baseball investigation into sports betting.

Clase, a three-time All-Star, becomes the second Guardians pitcher to be placed on leave in connection with a sports gambling probe.

Luis Ortiz also is on non-disciplinary leave through Aug. 31.

It was unclear if the cases were related in any way. The Guardians said in a statement that they "have been informed that no additional players or club personnel are expected to

be impacted."

The 27-year-old Clase is 5-3 with 24 saves in 48 games this year, but he also has a career-high 3.23 ERA. The right-hander led the AL in saves in each of the previous three years and was speculated to be sought after in trades ahead of this week's MLB trade deadline.

MLB said in a statement that Clase had been placed on leave per an agreement with the players' association while the league "continues its sports betting investigation." It declined further comment.

Cleveland was slated to begin a three-game series against Colorado on Monday night.

The Guardians are second in the AL Central with a 52-53 record.

The Ortiz investigation is related to in-game prop bets on two pitches thrown by the right-hander that received higher activity than usual during his starts at Seattle on June 15 and against St. Louis on June 27. The gambling activity on the pitches was flagged by a betting-integrity firm and forwarded to MLB.

The situation with Clase and Ortiz comes after MLB suspended five players for gambling in June 2024, including a lifetime ban for San Diego Padres infielder Tucupita Marcano. MLB said Marcano placed 387 baseball bets totaling more than \$150,000 with

a legal sportsbook in 2022 and 2023.

Athletics pitcher Michael Kelly and three minor leaguers San Diego pitch-

er Jay Groome, Arizona pitcher Andrew Saalfrank and Philadelphia infielder José Rodríguez received one-year suspensions. □



Cleveland Guardians relief pitcher Emmanuel Clase reacts after the Guardians defeated the Athletics in a baseball game, Friday, July 18, 2025, in Cleveland.

Associated Press





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Deion Sanders says he had bladder cancer but plans to coach the Colorado Buffaloes this season

By **PAT GRAHAM**
AP Sports Writer

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — Colorado coach Deion Sanders disclosed Monday that he was diagnosed with an aggressive form of bladder cancer but after surgery his oncologist has considered him cured, so he plans to coach this season.

Dr. Janet Kukreja, director of urologic oncology at the CU Cancer Center/UCHealth University of Colorado hospital, said Sanders had his bladder removed as part of the surgical plan.

"It was dynamic. It was tough. It wasn't a cakewalk. It wasn't easy," said Sanders, who arrived to his news conference wearing a cowboy hat and overalls along with sunglasses, which he removed after getting choked up. "That was a fight, but we made it."

Sanders, who turns 58 next month, has drawn headlines for his health, but the focus largely was on two toes he's had amputated and concerns over blood clots. He said he's had 14 surgeries since 2021, when he was still the coach at Jackson State, but kept his cancer fight private.

Sanders spoke on the eve of fall camp as he enters his third season overseeing the Buffaloes. He brought his medical team with him to discuss his diagnosis. It was revealed that a section of his intestine was reconstructed to function as a bladder. He won't need radiation or chemotherapy, Kukreja said.

"The 'C' word, when we hear that word there's normally a life sentence attached to it," Sanders said. "But not this time. But not this time."



Colorado head coach Deion Sanders smiles before speaking about his journey in beating bladder cancer during a press conference Monday, July 28, 2025, in Boulder, Colo.

Associated Press

Sanders said he lost about 25 pounds, leading him to joke, "I was like Atlanta Falcons Prime at one point." He later added: "I truly depend on Depend, if you know what I mean. I can't control my bladder. ... Let's not be ashamed of it. Let's deal with it head on."

Just Sanders being Sanders he remained upbeat throughout the entire process, his medical team said. "He never folded one time and never wavered," team trainer Lauren Askevold said. "You couldn't ask for a better patient because he wants to get up and get going right away. ... It's been a hectic journey. It's been a lot. But there's a blessing in disguise with all of this."

Never once did Sanders waver in his belief that he would return to the sideline. "I always knew I was going to coach again. It was never in my spirit, in my heart, that God wouldn't

allow me to coach again," he said. "I just didn't want to be running down to the hospital once a week when I have all of this on my plate. I don't want that. I was like, 'OK, can they bring one of those machines and put them in the office?'"

Athletic director Rick George echoed Sanders. "He's so positive, and he said he'd be back," George said. "I had every confidence that he would be." While he dealt with the cancer diagnosis, Sanders said he had plenty of friends and family check in on him. Among those who reached out was fellow Pro Football Hall of Famer Randy Moss, who took a leave of absence from ESPN in early December after having surgery for his cancer.

"Randy Moss called me every other day to make sure I was straight," Sanders said. "Randy Moss prayed for me he and his wife. Told me what I needed to be

doing."

Sanders repeatedly stressed the importance of early detection. His cancer was discovered when he went for an annual CT scan as a precaution given his history with blood clots.

"We're lucky to have found it at this stage where I could say the word cure," Kukreja said, "because I don't use that word lightly as a cancer doctor."

The charismatic coach missed football camps in Boulder this summer amid reports that he's been ill. He returned to campus last week and announced on social media, "Back and Feeling Great!"

On Sunday, the production crew of "Well Off Media," which chronicles Sanders and the Buffaloes, posted a video on YouTube of the coach's first meeting with the team. Included is a scene dated May 9 in which Sanders said: "I don't know if I'm ready mentally,

emotionally. Last night was tough, yesterday was tough, because I had to make a will. That's not easy at all, to think that you may not be here."

Sanders used humor Monday to talk about drafting a will, saying it was a chance to rank his kids. Jokes aside, he added: "You don't want to be a fool and leave and not have your business affairs in order."

Sanders has dealt with other health issues. Several of them have involved his left foot since having two toes amputated in 2021 because of blood clot issues while he was coaching at Jackson State. He missed Colorado's media day in 2023, his inaugural year, after a procedure to remove a blood clot from his right leg and another to straighten toes on his left foot.

In March, Sanders signed a contract extension through the 2029 season.

The Buffaloes kick off the season on Aug. 29 against Georgia Tech at Folsom Field. It will be the first season in quite some time that he hasn't coached one of his sons. Quarterback Shedeur Sanders was drafted by the Cleveland Browns while Shilo, a safety, is in camp with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Deion Sanders and the Buffaloes went 4-8 in his first season and 9-4 last season, with an appearance in the Alamo Bowl.

They have big shoes to fill in replacing Shedeur Sanders and Heisman Trophy winner Travis Hunter.

"I never look down. I'm always looking up and I'm always trying to go get it," Deion Sanders said.

"I want to be the best Prime I can be for everybody. For everybody." □